

House Bill 1185

By: Representative Morris of the 155<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 27-5-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wild  
2 animal licenses and permits generally, so as to provide that persons maintaining wild animals  
3 for noncommercial and educational purposes shall be entitled to obtain a wild animal license;  
4 to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

7 Code Section 27-5-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wild animal  
8 licenses and permits generally, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (b) as  
9 follows:

10 "(b)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, wild animal licenses will  
11 be issued only to persons engaged in the wholesale or retail wild animal business, ~~or~~  
12 persons exhibiting wild animals to the public, or persons maintaining such animals for  
13 noncommercial and educational purposes. As used in this paragraph, the term  
14 'educational purposes' includes the display of animals to school children at no cost. Wild  
15 animal permits will be issued at no cost and only to persons for scientific or educational  
16 purposes, to persons with a permanent disability or disease as provided and for the  
17 purpose described in paragraph (2) of this subsection, or to a pond owner for grass carp  
18 or grass carp hybrids where the department has determined that the possession of such  
19 carp by the pond owner will not constitute a threat to wildlife; provided, however, that  
20 no such permit shall be required for persons buying triploid grass carp from properly  
21 licensed wild animal dealers authorized to sell grass carp where the bill of sale is retained  
22 by the buyer as proof of such sale and where the triploid grass carp are to be stocked only  
23 into a private pond; provided, further, that no such license or permit shall be required  
24 solely for the transportation of wild animals through this state where the animals remain  
25 in this state no more than 24 hours and are not sold or transferred while in this state."

26 **SECTION 2.**

27 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
28 without such approval.

29 **SECTION 3.**

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.